



Crew's News

USS Farragut (DDG 99) Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Winter 2005-2006

Dear FARRAGUT Family and Friends,

Greetings from snowy Maine! The ship is nearing completion as we prepare for move aboard in early March. The crew is almost all here in Bath, and we are off to a great start for a busy and rewarding year in 2006.

It's a special honor for me to be the first Commanding Officer of DDG-99. I can already tell that working with this very talented and dedicated team of Sailors will be the highlight of my time in the Navy. FARRAGUT is my fifth ship assignment in over 19 years of active duty, and this will be my second tour in the lovely warm weather homeport of Mayport, FL. It will be nice to not be cold!

We have several challenging activities to execute between now and December to fully prepare ourselves and the ship for operational employment in our nation's Navy. I'll briefly mention a few of them and I encourage you to ask your FARRAGUT Sailor for more details as appropriate.

Between now and sail away in early May, we will be loading all of the supplies and equipment onto the ship, training on the systems and procedures for safe operation of the ship, and preparing to move our cars, possessions, and families to Florida. Major training areas for all hands include damage control, force protection and security, and various shipboard activities. Specialty groups will be learning propulsion, ship control, combat systems, communications, navigation, boat operations, and food preparation, to name quite a few. We can hardly wait to get onboard the ship full time and continue to make FARRAGUT "our" ship. Several outside groups will be coming onboard both to assist in preparations and to assess our ability to go to sea on our own.

Don't forget to plan to attend the Commissioning Ceremony in Mayport, FL, on Saturday, June 10, 2006. It will be a memorable occasion in the life of the command and sharing it with friends and family is a wonderful way to celebrate the successes of our pre-commissioning efforts. Addresses for invitations are collected via the crew, so let them know to include you.

I appreciate all of the support you give to your Sailors and I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can.

Until the next time,

CDR Deidre L. McLay
Commanding Officer



"Prepared For Battle"

From the desk of the Command Master Chief:

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome the loved ones of those service member's assigned to USS FARRAGUT (DDG 99). I must say that I'm very impressed with the quality of Sailor's we've received during the manning phase and I attribute that not only to the Sailor, but most importantly to the families that have supported them throughout their naval careers. No matter how you're affiliated to our FARRAGUT Sailor, you're receiving this newsletter because you've become an extended member of our FARRAGUT family. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you in the near future, I thank you for weathering the hardships you've endured, and also for the dedicated support you've provided your loved one while serving our nation.

To better acquaint myself with you, I'm a native of Jersey City, New Jersey. I entered the Navy in 1982 and attended Engineman "A" School at Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. My sea duty tours include USS FAIRFAX COUNTY (LST 1193), USS VREELAND (FF 1068), USS JOHN HANCOCK (DD 981), USS O'BANNON (DD987) and USS SPRUANCE (DD 963). I've served ashore at Naval Reserve Center, Burlington, Vermont and Fleet Technical Support Center, Mayport, Florida. My wife, Bernadette, and son, Gene reside in Orange Park, Florida. Our daughter, Erin, lives in Brunswick, Maine.

In testimony to the above paragraph I've served for nearly twenty-four years. This service has included nearly fourteen years of sea duty to which my family and I have endured eleven deployments. The sacrifice and hardship that you and your Sailor face from day to day is something my family and I are familiar with. I want to assure you that, while assigned to FARRAGUT, your Sailor has a solid, reliable chain of command in place to assist them through any difficult times they may face. As a member of the FARRAGUT family I'd also like to ensure that you have the same services available to you. I hope you consider getting involved with the Command Ombudsman Program. As you'll see in this newsletter we're currently looking for a spouse to fill the important position of Command Ombudsman. If you have the time to volunteer for this vital position, I urge you do so. Although I have an open door policy for our FARRAGUT Sailors, your concerns are also FARRAGUT concerns. Please feel free to contact me if you have any concerns.

In closing, I ask that you sleep well, **FARRAGUT** has the watch!

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The process for building DDG 99 actually began March 6, 1998 with Bath Iron Works in Bath, Maine being awarded the contract for ship's construction. The first piece of steel that would become part of FARRAGUT would not be cut until March 24, 2003. Finally, the keel was laid to support the rest of ship on January 9, 2004.

For the rest of the year FARRAGUT began to take on the characteristics of a Naval Destroyer. On 9 July, 2005 FARRAGUT was launched out of dry-dock for her first maiden-voyage... to the pier. Moored to the pier, the shipyard continued to work on her, to make sure she meets all specifications.



On July 23, 2005 the ship was officially christened FARRAGUT (DDG 99) in a grand ceremony that many came to attend. While still not officially a Navy vessel, the achievement of how far she had come was well revered and commended. For the rest of the year Bath Iron Works would continue to turn the ship into a Navy fighting machine.

December 12-16, 2005 gave Bath Iron Works the opportunity to show the FARRAGUT crew what they had accomplished onboard in an underway period called "Super-trials." It was a chance to test the systems and equipment that could not be evaluated from pier side; and for all intense purposes, it was a success.



The future is all that is left for FARRAGUT. On June 10, 2006, the ship will officially become the Navy warship USS FARRAGUT in a commissioning ceremony at Mayport Naval Station, Florida.



A Job Well Done

By FC1 (SW) Becker

Congratulations to Combat Systems on a highly successful quarter full of important accomplishments and milestones! The quarter began with FARRAGUT's first Combat Systems Team Trainer in Wallops Island, Virginia and St. Indigo's, Maryland. These Team Trainers incorporate many rates and specialties and was our first chance to "fight" the ship as a Combat Systems Team. Two weeks of training in various tactical scenarios proved to be a challenging and most rewarding experience for all involved. The ship's OS's, IS's, FC's, ET's, IT's, and CTT's worked together learning their console submode operations, tactical operations, communication plan setup, and teamwork. This is a major milestone for FARRAGUT.

Upon return from the Team Trainer, CS personnel hit the ground running in preparation for the upcoming "Super Trials." Super Trials is a combined testing underway period for pre-commissioning ships. What was once three separate four day underway periods, is now one all-inclusive testing underway. There was an exhaustive amount of maintenance, system operability checks, and ship's drawing verifications that had to be performed before getting underway. All personnel, from our Fire Control Master Chief Laganga, to our most junior FCSN Harbor played an invaluable role in preparing the ship for this intense inspection of ship operability. The four day underway was focuses on all aspects of ship operations. This is Bath Iron Works presentation of the ship to the Government's INSURV inspectors. There are too many system verifications to list separately, but there was one specific test that merits note. PCU FARRAGUT had her first missile shot at an incoming "drone". The USS Elrod FFG-55, provided FARRAGUT with four "drone" missiles firings for us to shoot down. These "drones" are actual missile targets that allowed us to test our equipment in detecting and neutralizing the threat. Two Standard Missile's (SM-2) were scheduled to be fired, but FARRAGUT only needed one to neutralize all four drones. The first drone splashed in the water out of fear. The second drone was shot and recorded as FARRAGUT's first "skin to skin" direct hit! The third drone also splashed in the water out of fear, while the forth was too scared to even leave the "rails". While we were disappointed to not have had the opportunity to fire the second missile, the direct hit on the first shot more than made up for it. Even under a compressed schedule, the FARRAGUT Team performed flawlessly and impressed everyone involved.

During these Super trials, their hard work and tenacity was reflected by the rewards of success. Through the trials and anticipation of going to sea, Combat Systems focuses their ambitions on mission success.

This Quarter's Combat Systems Bravo Zulu's go to LTjg Simon, FC3 Rohler, IC1 Reintges, and ET3 Sheets. LTjg Simon's efforts as the Ships Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Officer have been greatly appreciated by the entire crew. Everything from movie tickets to hockey games have provided us with much needed R&R. Mr. Simon has also been selected for promotion to Lieutenant, so BZ LT(sel) Simon. IC1 Reintges and FC3 Rohler receive special recognition for their efforts with Habitat for Humanity. They have been involved every Saturday, working from the beginning framing of the home all the way through the finishing of the inside. These community involvement opportunities do as much for the image of the Navy as they do for the individuals involved. And finally, ET3 Sheets, our Departmental Iron Man, took 1st place in FARRAGUT's first annual 5k run. It also deserves note that our Department Head, LT Bessler, has been selected for promotion to Lieutenant Commander. We are proud of him.



EMC (SW) Covington fine tunes his watch skills at a mock up console at LBES.

in Philadelphia, PA where a large building houses a fully-operational engineroom, similar to what will be onboard FARRAGUT. This two to three week course gave hands-on training in watchstanding, systems, and procedures and was a great experience for all involved.

Philadelphia also allowed for a unique opportunity to visit our predecessor USS FARRAGUT (DDG 37), which currently sits in the water at Naval Inactive Ship Maintenance Facility, awaiting scrapping. Though inactive since 1989, our visit is a piece of history that connects the two ships in the spirit of their namesake, Admiral Farragut.

Damage Control

Since the closing of the Norfolk, VA Detachment in December, the crew has doubled, and Damage Control training has become of the utmost importance. Every crewmember must attend a weeklong training event, affectionately named “Damage Control University,” where they learn the basics of firefighting and first aid. The designated damage control teams (also called repair locker or emergency response teams), which are the primary teams for responding to shipboard casualties, received extra training. Each team is sent to school in Rhode Island to complete a day long training evolution where they practice their techniques for combating fires, and working as a team.

Camaraderie

With all the intense training, Engineering Department still finds time for camaraderie.



GSE2(SW) Cruz heads down to the engineroom of the USS FARRAGUT (DDG 37)

Training Priority

By ENS Davis

As the department responsible for FARRAGUT's propulsion, electrical and auxiliary services, and damage control, training for engineering department is an ongoing process; and since the equipment onboard the ship is not ready for crew operation, we have other ways of learning and enhancing our knowledge of our equipment and procedures. One such means is Land Based Engineering Simulator (LBES) located

Several engineers, including EN2(SW) Taylor, GSMFNColeman, and GSMFNRamos, played on the ship's basketball team and helped bring them to the NAS Brunswick play-offs. During the holidays GSE1(SW) Flores and GSEC Johnson opened their homes to the crew, ensuring no one would spend the holidays alone; and GSM1(SW) Rivera helped build houses with Habitat for Humanity. DDG 99's Engineering Department is full of experts, mentors, and friends who have accomplished so much and show every potential for achieving even more.

Now is the Time to Buy!

By SH2(SW) Williams



SH2(SW) Williams poses with the knit FARRAGUT Blanket.

“Sales Are Up,” a motivated sailor yells, as another purchase is made from the Ship’s store at Pre-Com Unit FARRAGUT. Our shelves are fully stocked with items such as Command ballcaps, blankets, zippo lighters, t-shirts, frosted stein mugs, shot glasses, physical training gear and many more extra goodies all emblazoned with the ship’s crest. New merchandise comes in periodically and always with a great reception. The Precom store is never lacking in sales. This could be from knowing that once the crew moves aboard, many of the items will no longer be supported by the limited space and funding available. Now is the time the Sailors will take advantage of plankowner memorabilia that will never be available to future crews.

The Ship’s store also earned the credit for putting the “Merry,” in Christmas for the year 2005 where many Sailor’s decided to do their Christmas shopping here for their love ones. All items did amazingly well, especially the USS Farragut blanket with personalization; we had to re-order many items at least twice due to high sale volume!

The “Top Notch Spender” Program has also been helpful in keeping sales and morale up. With this program, at the end of each week, sales were totaled up to see which sailors spent the most money and they are recognized by email. There is also a second and third place winner, and, of course, the most improved spender of the week. This has really been a successful program, which has helped tremendously in bringing in over \$20,000.00 in sales in a 5 month window! So, yes, we stand firm behind the motto, “Sales Are Up!”

Some may ask the question, “What is done with all the money generated within the Ship’s store?” After the bills are paid and repairs are made, the rest is turned over to MWR (Morale and Welfare Recreation) for Command and Divisional functions, discounts for movies, sporting events, site seeing trips, sport uniforms, as well as discounts for theme parks.

The most important thing about the MWR Program is that we together make it what it is, meaning the more we spend in the Ship’s store, the more diverse fun we have for MWR activities.



A few of the Sailors from Supply pose with their award-winning holiday decorations.



The artwork from the back of one of the T-shirts sold in the Ship’s Store.

Lots To Do

By PSSA Flores

Every occupation on every ship holds an important amount of significance. It is no secret that as a PRECOM ship the crew has been working hard into forming a workable system that will carry on for, hopefully, as long as the ship remains commissioned. Work has been plentiful, and the days will only get longer as we come closer to Sail Away. For the NAV/ADMIN department, we have all been doing our part to contribute in the overall process of the ship's functions.

In Admin, preparations for the ship to go from PCU to USS are a time consuming process. Patience is a virtue in processing over 250 personnel and inputting them into a database for future use. Desks are stacked with records and papers, as well as responding other administrative crew issues. With the recent merger of the Personnelmen (PN) and Disbursing Clerks (DK) rate to PS, we certainly have our work cut out for us. For us, it has been a very enlightening and exciting learning experience, as many of us have had the opportunity to really get hands on with our rate and learn a lot. Though the work is long, the payoff will be a polished crew and a more efficient personnel office...which will lead to more happy Sailors!

For Navigation, our Quartermasters (QM) and Signalman (SM), similar to the PN's and DK's, have been adjusting to their own merger. For all, it has been a great experience, each having to learn the other rate, for example, the former Signalman learning about navigating, and the Quartermaster learning about signal flags. VMS(Voyage Management System). In learning the new computer based Voyage Management System (VMS), we are able to program the steering console, giving the operator the ability to control the steering helm, input the navigational charts and much more. Anyone in Nav/Admin has heard the quote "The Navy is trying to go paperless." and it would appear that this system is another step in achieving the Navy's ultimate goal. Over the past year Navigation has been working diligently to order, catalogue, and study the navigation charts, as well as learn the new systems and information they need to acquire to better perform in accordance with the rate merger. Their hard work and time is definitely and effectively contributing to the overall function of the ship.

With so many changes that went on through the year, and with this being a Precommissioned ship, Nav/Admin has risen up to meet the challenges that is demanded of us; working hard to contribute our part as FARRAGUT crew. We are prepared for the trials ahead of us, and look forward to it with dedication, determination, and commitment.



Linda and YNC Bass discuss ship's instructions.



QM1(SW) Manuel readies a chart for the first navigational brief before Super Trials.

Under Fire

By FC2(SW) White

It's been a busy few months for the Weapons Department! Everything from getting ready for the firing exercises on Super Trials, inspecting spaces and equipment after the shoot for integrity and functionality, and training the ship's company to safely handle weapons and protect the ship, there is no shortage of tasks for the sailors of CG, CA, and CM divisions. As the Department most responsible for the upkeep of the ship's warfighting capability, Weapons is always working to make sure that the FARRAGUT is never caught unprepared.

CM division has been working hard to make sure the ship's Tomahawk system is ready for action. Strike warfare is the primary mission of the Arleigh Burke class of destroyers, so it is vital that the FARRAGUT's strike warfare team be sharp and their equipment be ready whenever it is needed. In addition to working with their systems, CM personnel have also been preparing a series of training lectures to teach personnel about the Tomahawk Weapons System and its various capabilities in support of the Combat System Officer of the Watch qualification program.



The Weapons Officer demonstrates how to correctly holster a weapon.

The sonar techs in CA division have been working hand-in-hand with Bath Iron Works and system representatives to ensure that the FARRAGUT'S sonar suite is fully operational. During Super Trials they ran system tests and checked equipment and returned satisfied that all sonar personnel are properly trained and ready to fight the ship. Currently they are undergoing even more training to sharpen their skills, and writing training programs to teach the ship's company about the purpose and capabilities of their systems.

CG division has its hands full preparing training material for the crew in ship's quarterdeck watchstanding, visit, boarding, search and seizure (VBSS), and Anti-Terrorism Force Protection (AT/FP) programs. They are also responsible for making sure that the Vertical Launch Systems and 5"/62 caliber Gun Mount are combat-ready. During Super Trials CG division personnel successfully expended one SM-2 missile and forty-two 5-inch rounds without a casualty. Just another example of FARRAGUT leading the way!

In the coming months, as the ship's construction period here at BIW is completed, the crew's goal will change from preparing for sail away to achieving full mission readiness. Weapons Department personnel will continue to play a key role in making sure the ship is ready to complete whatever mission with which she is tasked. After all, without weapons with which to fight, how could the FARRAGUT ever truly be "Prepared for Battle"?

Safety Is A Command Responsibility

by OS1 (SW) Jernigan

The Command Safety program is off to a running start. Spearheaded by the Command Safety Officer, LT Holmes, and Assistant Command Safety Officer, OS1(SW) Jernigan, FARRAGUT is definitely on track to becoming one of the frontrunners in waterfront safety. With a strong working relationship between the Command Safety Council and the Enlisted Safety Committee, command safety has become a high priority for all hands to work and live by, and not just in the workplace.

Prior to the holidays FARRAGUT held a "safety stand down" where all crewmembers would hear lectures concerning safety issues that commonly occur, particularly around the holidays. Among the many topics covered in this day long training environment, Corporal Lathrop from the Bath Police Department spoke to the crew concerning safe driving under snowy winter conditions. There was also a focus on home and recreational safety by SK1(SW) Robinson and EM1(SW) Morrow. Other topics that were covered included electrical safety, helping a shipmate, and drinking and driving.

The ship is also preparing for its arrival in Mayport with OS1(SW) Smith, the Command Traffic Safety Program Manager, getting the Motorcycle Safety Program set for the sunny days to come. These programs are created as tools for the crew to "think smart" in all aspects both professional and personal, because safety is paramount to morale and a job well done.



QM1 (SW) Manuel cleans the snow from his car.

Turning To

By CTR1(SW) Rountree

Operations Department had a great 1st Quarter for 2006. Following Super Trials, OD, OC, OI, and OT divisions have been "turning to" preparing for move aboard and ultimately sail away from Maine down to Mayport. We have been training, conducting inspections, Ships Signals Exploitation Space Accreditation, performing mass check-ins, tracking Trial cards, and getting supplies ready to load out the ship.



OS's hard at work preparing geographical charts.

Events to note are as follows: OD has 7 new Sailors on the way to check in from Norfolk. OI has been preparing the geographical charts. OC has been working extra hard and long hours in preparing for LAN migration. Advancement results for September yielded 3 new CTR3s in OT.

Winter Weather

By: PSSA Flores

Ask anyone what they think of when they think of winter in Maine; the first thing they'll say, especially if they're from the south like myself, is: "Freaking cold." That'd probably be one of the less colorful responses in any case.

It's no secret that the North has its four seasons, and during the winter time, it is naturally cold. Snow, sleet, icy roads, and salted cars are a common sight for New Englanders, and we've certainly seen a good bit of it this year. October brought with it the beautiful colors of Autumn, and in this rocky coastline, with its lakes and numerous trees, it was truly a wonderful sight to behold. Despite the changing of the colors, the weather did not drop as was expected, at least not for us Southerners... although we hardly complained.

It was actually not until the week of Thanksgiving that we saw our first bit of snow. While everyone knew the white stuff was sure to come eventually, the fact that it came so late in the year was surprising, and so close to the holidays, it was quite the welcome sight. The temperature dropped and the amount of clothing worn was increased, but spirits were still high as the snow fell and it began to feel a little more like the holidays. While the ground has not been covered in snow this entire winter, despite popular rumors and speculations, those who are used to the snow and those who are not experienced their fair share of the good and bad side of winter. Icy roads are always a hazard, especially when the snow is falling in a substantial amount, six inches a few times this year, and one must always be careful. Winterizing cars were an issue as people rushed to their nearest auto-shop as they prepared their cars for the cold temperatures. We've had temperatures of close to 6 degrees, and I know I've personally slipped and fell down into the ice at least once this winter. But despite the cold, the winter has brought joy to many of our crew, and with three to four months left of the cold, white flaky material to fall down upon our heads, it has been a good experience for all.



OSC(SW) Johnson comes in out of the snow.



DCC(SW) Garret prepares to call the next number at the lunch time Bingo.

GSMFN Coleman shows off the FARRAGUT basketball team T-shirt.





The winners for the CFC Mid-coast Maine drive.

the workplace.

Annually, naval commands assigned to military installations compete amongst each other to donate to this charitable event. This year PCU FARRGUT were amongst the commands assigned to Brunswick Naval Air Station, Maine. FARRAGUT's first year in the running started off with a bang as our CFC command representative, OS1(SW) Mack, motivated everyone to donate to either the charities of their choice or to Hurricane Katrina Relief.

With dedicated key workers (EN2 Taylor, FC1 Beltran, CS1 Ramirez, OS2 Rogers, STG1 Peters, and YN2 Johnson) FARRAGUT surpassed their goal by over two-thousand dollars raising a total of \$6,723. This amount contributed to the \$130,000 raised over the entire base. Among the winners of this year's CFC Mid-coast Maine Region drive were: Large - SUPSHIP - \$21,711, Small - PCU Gridley - \$1,580, and Medium - Farragut - \$6,722. Lookout Mayport because we're PREPARED FOR BATTLE!!

Volunteers

By IC1(SW) Reintges

The crew from the Farragut have been working hard. It is apparent they seek not only a successful tour on board, but also a positive influence within the community. Since his arrival to the unit in June, Petty Officer Reintges has taken on the duties as community service coordinator for the ship's crew.

One such volunteer opportunity is the Bath Skate Park, young teens go to listen to inexpensive concerts by local bands and ride their skateboards in a drug and alcohol free environment, an alternative to mischief on the streets.

The volunteer Farragut crewmembers make the concerts possible by taking tickets at the door and insure that the young adults are having safe fun inside the building.

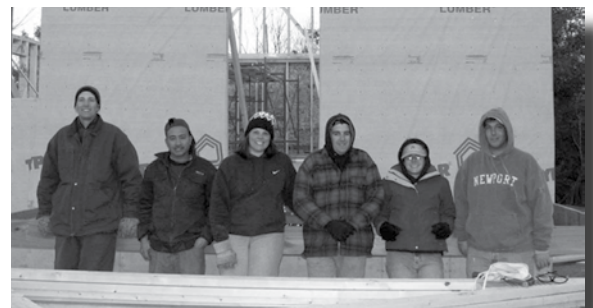
Many crewmembers have also become an integral part of Habitat for Humanity. This non-profit organization allows low-income families an opportunity to feel the joys of home ownership, an opportunity they might otherwise never have. Thru volunteers and a lot of hard work, a home is built from the ground up, or an existing house is renovated to a like new status.

The Farragut volunteers hope to have a chance to finish the house they are building for Nicole, a Brunswick area Public school teacher, before the ship departs Maine.

Combined Federal Campaign

By OS1(SW) Mack

Nearly four million federal employees and military personnel are able to contribute to the charities of their choice during the annual charity drive, which runs from September 1 through December 15. Established in 1961, it is the largest workplace charity campaign in the country and the only campaign authorized to solicit and collect contributions from federal employees in



Volunteers from the ship take a break in front of the house they are building.



OS1(SW) Smith receives his Expert Pistol Medal.



IT1(SW) Stephens receives her frocking letter from the Commanding officer.



HT1(SW) Rebura's reenlistment.

-The Navy College Program for Afloat College Education (NCPACE) Director commended FARRAGUT, claiming DDG 99 is the only DDG in recent history to have 100% completion for pace courses. He gives a Bravo Zulu to FC1(SW) Becker, who spearheaded this effort.

-GM3 Durkin, EN3 Holt, and CSSN Roark successfully completed Search and Rescue (SAR) School.

Advancement:

GSE1(SW) Pfirman
IT1(SW) Stephens
SH2 Hawkins
QM2 Paul
FC2 White
CS3 Cooper
OS3 Davis
CTR3 Faulhefer

FC3 Harber
GM3 Kopp
CTR3 Locascio
CTR3 Martin
HM3 Morris
GSE3 Patel
FC3 Rohler
SH3 Smith

Reenlistment:

FCC(SW) Brock
FC1(SW) Houck

HT1(SW) Rebura

Navy Achievement Medal:

ENC(SW) Greene
CSC(SW) Panganiban
HM1(SW) Thompson-Filip

IT1(SW) Phelps

SH2(SW) Williams

Good Conduct:

ETC(SW) Doody

CTTC(SW) Vihnanek

Expert Pistol Shot Medal:

LT Harbin
LT Holmes
LT Seigenthaler
FCC Mattachione
BMC Ramos

FCC Wess
FC1(SW) Becker
FC1(SW) Beltran
STG1(SW) Pettys
GM1(SW) Reed

Expert Pistol Shot Medal (Sharpshooter):

LCDR Bonner
LT Bessler
LT Dye
LTJG Hoyem
FCC(SW) Brock
ENC(SW) Covington
CTTC(SW) Vihnanek
STGC(SW) Young
FC1(SW) Benitez
STG1(SW) Faddis
GM1(SW) Miller
IC1(SW) Reinteges

GSM1(SW) Rivera
IT1(SW) Roberts
FC1(SW) Smith
FC1(SW) Tuley
YN2(SW) Johnson
STG2 Singleton
FC2 White
FC3 Harber
FC3 Hopkins
ITSA Sandeen
STGSA Vega

****Bravo Zulu is traditional Navy terminology that means, "Congratulations on a job well done!"**

Command Ombudsman

The Navy Family Ombudsman Program is a Navy-wide program that improves mission readiness by ensuring the family life associated with a service member is enhanced as much as possible. A successful ombudsman program will also aid retention, which assists the command in retaining experienced and productive service members.

As USS FARRAGUT is nearing completion and preparing to set sail for homeport, the command is looking for that special individual (spouse) to fulfill the position of Command Ombudsman. The Command Ombudsman will serve as a vital asset in supporting the command mission by providing communication, outreach, resource referral, information and advocacy to the families of those service members assigned to FARRAGUT. The Command Ombudsman will also provide a link between the command and the Navy family.

As the Command Ombudsman, you will be required to attend a two week course, provided for by the Fleet and Family Support Center, which will assist you in carrying out your Ombudsman duties. There are no fees associated with this course and FARRAGUT will reimburse your childcare related expenses. Reimbursement of mileage and parking is dependent on course location. Additionally, the Command Ombudsman will be provided the basic administrative supplies associated with carrying out your duties.

If you're interested in filling the vital position of Command Ombudsman for FARRAGUT, please contact the Command Master Chief at (w) 207-442-5105, (c) 207-751-3554 or email cmc@farragut.navy.mil to receive additional information.

Contact Information

Please visit our website at: www.cns1.spear.navy.mil/farragut

The current mailing address for FARRAGUT (DDG 99) is:

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Special Thanks

*Special thanks to Ms. Tami Mitchell and Mr. Mike Nutter, who have taken DDG 99 pictures since they cut the first piece of steel. Many of the pictures throughout this newsletter are courtesy of Ms. Mitchell and Mr. Nutter.

*Thank you to the following crewmembers for giving inputs and articles for the first Crew's Newsletter: PSSN Bearer, FC1(SW) Becker, SK1(SW) Durham, PSSA Flores, OS1(SW) Jernigan, YN2(SW) Johnson, SK2(SW) McCall, OS1(SW) Mack, IC1(SW) Reintges, CTR1 (SW) Rountree, IT3 Warren, FC2 White, SH2(SW) Williams

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“Prepared For Battle”

